

San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health
Homeless Intensive Case Management and Outreach Services Program

On October 18, 2007 the Department of Behavioral Health received Department of Mental Health (DMH) Information Notice 07-21 informing Counties that receive funding under the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) that DMH intends to release \$64 million additional Community Services and Supports (CSS) funds on a one-time basis to 58 counties and two cities providing mental health services in their communities. The County of San Bernardino Department of Behavioral Health has been allocated \$1,176,800.

The San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health is using this opportunity to take an active role in to the challenge of the County's homeless adult residents with mental illness by developing homeless services that promote the principles of recovery, wellness and resiliency. Clients are encouraged to make decisions about their lives, their care and move toward new levels of functioning.

The **Homeless Intensive Case Management and Outreach Services Program** will focus on the consumers strength's to promote hope and movement toward the clients desires. The development of the new program will allow the San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health to provide services to clients with mental illness, including those on both ends of the homelessness spectrum: the "chronically homeless", who have repeatedly found themselves homeless for long periods, and individuals who are newly homeless or are at risk of homelessness and with immediate assistance, can avoid extended trauma. The features of the Homeless Intensive Case Management and Outreach Services Program include:

Community Collaboration

Collaboration with community providers that serve other than the mentally ill homeless individual to maximize communication and prevent duplication of effort and t increase effectiveness.

Community Based Mental Health And Case Management Services

Development of levels of service to provide the client with mental illness added support during initial crisis with clear expectations at each level. The consumer will be encouraged and supported in each phase of his/her journey towards recovery.

Outreach

A strategic outreach component will work to identify the underserved homeless mentally ill individuals throughout the County.

Shelter Beds

Emergency and Shelter beds will be available throughout the county to meet the needs of mentally ill clients.

Resource Center

A resource center will provide support and basic survival services to the adult mentally ill homeless population. A feature of the resource center is the ability to offer Employment Services to the mentally ill client.

A 30-day public review and comment period is required for the County of San Bernardino to participate in this State-administered Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Program for the purpose of providing homeless services for adults with mental illness. The review period begins on **April 9, 2008** and will end on **May 9, 2008**.

A public hearing will take place on May 1, 2008 from 12:00 to 2:00 at the following location:

Mental Health Commission Meeting
Behavioral Health Resource Center
850 E. Foothill Blvd
Rialto, CA

Comments may be sent to the MHSA Comment/Question Line: 1-800-722-9866 or emailed to mhsa@dbh.sbcounty.gov.